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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 707  
By Sands

A RESOLUTION encouraging Governor Don Sundquist to recognize Tuesday, May 9, 2000, as "Equal Pay Day" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, more than thirty-five years after the passage of the Equal Pay Act and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, women continue to suffer the consequences of inequitable pay differentials; and

WHEREAS, wage discrimination laws are inadequately enforced and extremely difficult to prove and win; and

WHEREAS, although women's earnings have been slowly catching up to men's over time, the National Committee on Pay Equity proclaims that this reduction in the wage is related to a fall in men's earnings rather than an increase in women's earnings; and

WHEREAS, a vast majority of households depend on the wages of a working mother and working families are often just one paycheck away from hardship; and

WHEREAS, fair pay equity policies can be implemented simply and without undue costs, while enhancing the American economy; and

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WHEREAS, Tuesday, May 9, 2000, symbolizes the day on which the wages paid to American women thus far in the year 2000, when added to women's earnings for all of 1999, finally equal the 1999 earnings of American men; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we urge the Governor to recognize Tuesday, May 9, 2000, as "Equal Pay Day" in Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we urge the citizens of our state to recognize the full value of women's skills and significant contributions to the labor force.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.